

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A portable electronic device includes a pivot unit coupled to a main housing and a cover body such that the cover body is pivotable about a longitudinal axis parallel to a top surface of the main housing, and about
5 a vertical axis transverse to the top surface of the main housing. A virtual control key module configures a display panel mounted on a first surface of the cover body to show simulated control keys thereon when the portable electronic device is operated in a mode, where
10 the cover body is superimposed on the main housing such that a second surface of the cover body opposite to the first surface faces toward the top surface of the main housing. The simulated control keys have distinct
15 functions assigned thereto and are available for selection so as to enable execution of the function assigned to a selected simulated control key.